United Nations S/2010/100

Security Council

Distr.: General
2 March 2010
English
Original: French

Letter dated 19 February 2010 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Burkina Faso to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of the press release dated 17 February 2010 from the Facilitator of the inter-Ivorian direct dialogue, His Excellency Mr. Blaise Compaoré, President of Burkina Faso, regarding the political process in Côte d'Ivoire (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bonaventure **Koudougou**
Minister Counsellor
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 19 February 2010 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Burkina Faso to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Press release from the Facilitator of the inter-Ivorian direct dialogue

Ouagadougou, 17 February 2010

1. On 11 February 2009 in Ouagadougou, His Excellency Mr. Blaise Compaoré, President of Burkina Faso, Facilitator of the inter-Ivorian direct dialogue, held consultations with the various Ivorian parties — La Majorité présidentielle (LMP), the Rassemblement des Houphouëtistes pour la démocratie et la paix (RHDP) and the Chairman of the Independent electoral commission (CEI) — in order to seek solutions to the difficulties experienced in recent weeks in implementing the electoral process due to the internal cross-checking of 429,000 disputed cases by the Independent electoral commission.

2. It was noted that significant progress has been made in the electoral process, particularly with the production of a provisional electoral list of 5,300,000 persons who were successfully cross-checked by the National statistical institute (INS) and SAGEM.

3. The Ivorian politicians expressed various concerns regarding the latest developments in the crisis recovery process and stressed their desire to preserve the gains achieved and to pursue the implementation of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement.

4. The Facilitator listened with great interest to the address to the nation delivered on 12 February 2010 by His Excellency Mr. Laurent Gbagbo, President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, in which he announced his decision to take extraordinary measures in order to remove all possible obstacles to the process so that fair and transparent elections can be held.

5. The Facilitator wishes, in this regard, to encourage President Laurent Gbagbo to act quickly to relaunch the electoral process so that it can reach a successful conclusion, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement, whose achievements he has made a commitment to sustain.

6. The Facilitator also wishes to encourage the Prime Minister, Mr. Guillaume Soro, who remains in office, to continue his unceasing efforts to guide the crisis recovery process under his responsibility to a successful conclusion in a spirit of inclusiveness.

7. It is the Facilitator's fervent hope that the spirit of dialogue and ongoing cooperation that has always reigned will continue to prevail within the context of the mechanisms established by the Ouagadougou Political Agreement and the previous peace agreements.

8. The Facilitator sent the President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire a letter to this effect dated 15 February 2010, which was delivered to its distinguished addressee on the same day by Mr. Boureima Badini, the Special representative of the Facilitator.

9. The Facilitator appeals for calm and restraint on the part of politicians, public and private media, Ivorian political stakeholders and the population as a whole.

(*Signed*) Blaise **Compaoré**